

**ATTACHMENT A-1  
PROGRAM SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**Standard Clauses for All New York State  
Department of Environmental Conservation Contracts**

The parties to the attached contract, license, lease, grant, amendment or other agreement of any kind (hereinafter "the contract" or "this contract") agree to be bound by the following clauses which are hereby made a part of the contract. The word "Contractor" herein refers to any party to the contract, other than the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (hereinafter "DEC").

**A) AGENCY SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**I. Postponement, suspension, abandonment or termination by the DEC:** Within 15 days of receipt of notice, the Contractor shall deliver to the DEC all data, reports, plans, or other documentation related to the performance of this contract, including but not limited to source codes and specifications, guarantees, warranties, as-built plans and shop drawings. In any of these events, the DEC shall make settlement with the Contractor upon an equitable basis as determined by the DEC which shall fix the value of the work which was performed by the Contractor prior to the postponement, suspension, abandonment or termination of this contract. This clause shall not apply to this contract if the contract contains other provisions applicable to postponement, suspension or termination of the contract.

**II. Conflict of Interest**

(a) Organizational Conflict of Interest - To the best of the Contractor's knowledge and belief, the Contractor warrants that there are no relevant facts or circumstances which could give rise to an organizational conflict of interest, as herein defined, or that the Contractor has disclosed all such relevant information to the DEC..

(1) An organizational conflict of interest exists when the nature of the work to be performed under this contract may, without some restriction on future activities, impair or appear to impair the Contractor's objectivity in performing the work for the DEC.

(2) The Contractor agrees that if an actual, or potential organizational conflict of interest is discovered at any time after award, whether before or during performance, the Contractor will immediately make a full disclosure in writing to the DEC. This disclosure shall include a description of actions which the Contractor has taken or proposes to take, after consultation with the DEC, to avoid, mitigate, or minimize the actual or potential conflict.

(3) To the extent that the work under this contract requires access to personal, proprietary or confidential business or financial data of persons or other companies, and as long as such data remains proprietary or confidential, the Contractor shall protect such data from unauthorized use and disclosure and agrees not to use it to compete with such companies.

(b) Personal Conflict of Interest - The following provisions with regard to management or professional level employee personnel performing under this contract shall apply until the earlier of the termination date of the affected employee(s) or the duration of the contract.

(1) A personal conflict of interest is defined as a relationship of an employee, subcontractor employee, or consultant with an entity that may impair or appear to impair the objectivity of the employee, subcontractor employee, or consultant in performing the contract work. The Contractor agrees to notify the DEC immediately of any actual or potential personal conflict of interest with regard to any such person working on or

having access to information regarding this contract, as soon as Contractor becomes aware of such conflict. The DEC will notify the Contractor of the appropriate action to be taken.

(2) The Contractor agrees to advise all management or professional level employees involved in the work of this contract, that they must report any personal conflicts of interest to the Contractor. The Contractor must then advise the DEC which will advise the Contractor of the appropriate action to be taken.

(3) Unless waived by the DEC, the Contractor shall certify annually that, to the best of the Contractor's knowledge and belief, all actual, apparent or potential conflicts of interest, both personal and organizational, as defined herein, have been reported to the DEC. Such certification must be signed by a senior executive of the Contractor and submitted in accordance with instructions provided by the DEC. Along with the annual certification, the Contractor shall also submit an update of any changes in any conflict of interest plan submitted with its proposal for this contract. The initial certification shall cover the one-year period from the date of contract award, and all subsequent certifications shall cover successive annual periods thereafter. The certification is to be submitted no later than 45 days after the close of the previous certification period covered.

(4) In performing this contract, the Contractor recognizes that its employees may have access to data, either provided by the DEC or first generated during contract performance, of a sensitive nature which should not be released without DEC approval. If this situation occurs, the Contractor agrees to obtain confidentiality agreements from all affected employees working on requirements under this contract including subcontractors and consultants. Such agreements shall contain provisions which stipulate that each employee agrees not to disclose, either in whole or in part, to any entity external to the DEC, Department of Health, or the New York Department of Law, any information or data provided by the DEC or first generated by the Contractor under this contract, any site-specific cost information, or any enforcement strategy without first obtaining the written permission of the DEC. If a Contractor, through an employee or otherwise, is subpoenaed to testify or produce documents, which could result in such disclosure, the Contractor must provide immediate advance notification to the DEC so that the DEC can authorize such disclosure or have the opportunity to take action to prevent such disclosure. Such agreements shall be effective for the life of the contract and for a period of five (5) years after completion of the contract.

(c) Remedies - The DEC may terminate this contract in whole or in part, if it deems such termination necessary to avoid an organizational or personal conflict of interest, or an unauthorized disclosure of information. If the Contractor fails to make required disclosures or misrepresents relevant information to the DEC, the DEC may terminate the contract, or pursue such other remedies as may be permitted by the terms of Clause I of this Attachment or other applicable provisions of this contract regarding termination.

(d) The Contractor will be ineligible to make a proposal or bid on a contract for which the Contractor has developed the statement of work or the solicitation package

(e) The Contractor agrees to insert in each subcontract or consultant agreement placed hereunder (except for subcontracts or consultant agreements for well drilling, fence erecting, plumbing, utility hookups, security guard services, or electrical services) provisions which shall conform substantially to the language of this clause, including this paragraph (e), unless otherwise authorized by the DEC.

### **III. Dispute Resolution**

The parties agree to the following steps, or as many as are necessary to resolve disputes between the DEC and the Contractor.

(a) The Contractor specifically agrees to submit, in the first instance, any dispute relating to this contract to the designated individual, who shall render a written decision and furnish a copy thereof to the Contractor.

- (1) The Contractor must request such decision in writing no more than fifteen days after it knew or should have known of the facts which are the basis of the dispute.
  - (2) The decision of the designated individual shall be the final DEC determination, unless the Contractor files a written appeal of that decision with the designated appeal individual ("DAI") within twenty days of receipt of that decision.
- (b) Upon receipt of the written appeal, the DAI, will review the record and decision. Following divisional procedures in effect at that time, the DAI will take one of the following actions, with written notice to the Contractor.
- (1) Remand the matter to the program staff for further negotiation or information if it is determined that the matter is not ripe for review; or
  - (2) Determine that there is no need for further action, and that the determination of the designated individual is confirmed; or
  - (3) Make a determination on the record as it exists.
- (c) The decision of the DAI shall be the final DEC decision unless the Contractor files a written appeal of that decision with the Chair of the Contract Review Committee ("CRC") within twenty days of receipt of that decision.

The designated individual to hear disputes is:

Mark Lowery  
Assistant Director, Office of Climate Change  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway, 14th Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-1500  
(518) 402-9507

The designated appeal individual to review decisions is:

Jon Binder  
Office of General Counsel  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway, 9th Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-1030  
(518) 402-8448

The Chair of the Contract Review Committee is:

Department of Environmental Conservation  
Nancy W. Lussier, Chair  
Contract Review Committee  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-5010  
Telephone: (518) 402-9228

- (d) Upon receipt of the written appeal, the Chair of the CRC, in consultation with the members of the CRC and

the Office of General Counsel will take one of the following actions, or a combination thereof, with written notice to the Contractor.

- (1) Remand the matter to program staff for additional fact finding, negotiation, or other appropriate action; or
  - (2) Adopt the decision of the DAI; or
  - (3) Consider the matter for review by the CRC in accordance with its procedures.
- (e) Following a decision to proceed pursuant to (d) 3, above, the Chair of the CRC shall convene a proceeding in accordance with the CRC's established contract dispute resolution guidelines. The proceeding will provide the Contractor with an opportunity to be heard.
  - (f) Following a decision pursuant to (d) 2 or (d) 3, the CRC shall make a written recommendation to the Deputy Commissioner for Administration who shall render the final DEC determination.
  - (g) At any time during the dispute resolution process, and upon mutual agreement of the parties, the Office of Hearings and Mediation Services (OHMS) may be requested to provide mediation services or other appropriate means to assist in resolving the dispute. Any findings or recommendations made by the OHMS will not be binding on either party.
  - (h) Final DEC determinations shall be subject to review only pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.
  - (i) Pending final determination of a dispute hereunder, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of the Contract in accordance with the decision of the designated individual. Nothing in this Contract shall be construed as making final the decision of any administrative officer upon a question of law.
  - (j)(1) Notwithstanding the foregoing, at the option of the Contractor, the following shall be subject to review by the CRC:  
Disputes arising under Article 15-A of the Executive Law (Minority and Women Owned Business participation), the DEC's determination with respect to the adequacy of the Contractor's Utilization Plan, or the Contractor's showing of good faith efforts to comply therewith. A request for a review before the CRC should be made, in writing, within twenty days of receipt of the DEC's determination.
  - (2) The CRC will promptly convene a review in accordance with Article 15-A of the Executive Law and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

#### **IV. Tax Exemption**

Pursuant to Tax Law Section 1116, the State is exempt from sales and use taxes. A standard state voucher is sufficient evidence thereof. For federal excise taxes, New York's registration Number 14740026K covers tax-free transactions under the Internal Revenue Code.

#### **V. Litigation Support**

In the event the DEC becomes involved in litigation related to the subject matter of this contract, the Contractor agrees to provide background support and other litigation support, including but not limited to depositions, appearances, and testimony. Any compensation paid to the Contractor under this paragraph will be negotiated and based on the rates established in the contract, or as may otherwise be provided in the contract. No compensation for such support will be paid if the litigation is the result of the Contractors

misconduct, negligence or omissions.

**VI. Inventions or Discoveries**

The Scope of work of this agreement shall not include any inventions. If, however, an invention results from this project it shall be owned as follows:

Any invention or discovery first made or conceived and reduced to practice in the performance of this Contract solely by the Contractor shall remain with the Contractor; provided that the Contractor shall grant to the DEC and the State a nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license to practice or have practiced for on behalf of the DEC and the State the subject copyright throughout the world, where the Contractor is able to do so.

Any invention or discovery made or conceived and reduced to practice in the performance of this Contract solely by DEC or State shall remain with the State; provided that the DEC or State shall grant to the Contractor a nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license to use for non-commercial research, educational, and public service purposes.

Any invention or discovery made or conceived and reduced to practice in the performance of this Contract jointly by Contractor and DEC or State in the performance of this work shall be jointly held by the Contractor and DEC or State.

**VII. Intellectual Property and Copyright Materials**

- (a) Title to, and the right to determine the disposition of any copyrights, or copyrightable material, first produced or created solely by Contractor in the performance of this work shall remain with the Contractor; provided that the Contractor shall grant to the DEC and the State a nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license to practice or have practiced for on behalf of the DEC and the State the subject copyright throughout the world, where the Contractor is able to do so.

Title to, and the right to determine the disposition of any copyrights, or copyrightable material, first produced or created solely by DEC or State in the performance of this work shall remain with the State; provided that the DEC or State shall grant to the Contractor a nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license to use for non-commercial research, educational, and public service purposes.

Title to, and the right to determine the disposition of any copyrights, or copyrightable material, first produced or created jointly by Contractor and DEC or State in the performance of this work shall be jointly held by the Contractor and DEC or State.

**VIII. Patent and Copyright Protection**

If any patented or copyrighted material is involved in or results from the performance of this Contract, this Article shall apply.

- (a) The Contractor shall, at its expense, defend any suit instituted against the DEC and indemnify the DEC against any award of damages and costs made against the DEC by a final judgment of a court of last resort based on the claim that any of the products, services or consumable supplies furnished by the Contractor under this Contract infringes any patent, copyright or other proprietary right; provided the DEC gives the Contractor:
- (1) prompt written notice of any action, claim or threat of infringement suit, or other suit, and
  - (2) the opportunity to take over, settle or defend such action at the Contractor's sole expense, and

- (3) all available information, assistance and authority necessary to the action, at the Contractor's sole expense.

The Contractor shall control the defense of any such suit, including appeals, and all negotiations to effect settlement, but shall keep the DEC fully informed concerning the progress of the litigation.

- (b) If the use of any item(s) or parts thereof is held to infringe a patent or copyright and its use is enjoined, or Contractor believes it will be enjoined, the Contractor shall have the right, at its election and expense to take action in the following order of precedence:
  - (1) procure for the DEC the right to continue using the same item or parts thereof;
  - (2) modify the same so that it becomes non-infringing and of at least the same quality and performance;
  - (3) replace the item(s) or parts thereof with non-infringing items of at least the same quality and performance;
  - (4) if none of the above remedies are available, discontinue its use and eliminate any future charges or royalties pertaining thereto. The Contractor will buy back the infringing product(s) at the State's book value, or in the event of a lease, the parties shall terminate the lease. If discontinuation or elimination results in the Contractor not being able to perform the Contract, the Contract shall be terminated.
- (c) In the event that an action at law or in equity is commenced against the DEC arising out of a claim that the DEC's use of any item or material pursuant to or resulting from this Contract infringes any patent, copyright or proprietary right, and such action is forwarded by the DEC to the Contractor for defense and indemnification pursuant to this Article, the DEC shall copy all pleadings and documents forwarded to the Contractor together with the forwarding correspondence and a copy of this Contract to the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New York. If upon receipt of such request for defense, or at any time thereafter, the Contractor is of the opinion that the allegations in such action, in whole or in part, are not covered by the indemnification set forth in this Article, the Contractor shall immediately notify the DEC and the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New York in writing and shall specify to what extent the Contractor believes it is and is not obligated to defend and indemnify under the terms and conditions of this Contract. The Contractor shall in such event protect the interests of the DEC and State of New York and secure a continuance to permit the State of New York to appear and defend its interests in cooperation with Contractor as is appropriate, including any jurisdictional defenses which the DEC and State shall have.
- (d) The Contractor shall, however, have no liability to the DEC under this Article if any infringement is based upon or arises out of:
  - (1) compliance with designs, plans, or specifications furnished by or on behalf of the DEC as to the items;
  - (2) alterations of the items by the DEC;
  - (3) failure of the DEC to use updated items provided by the Contractor for avoiding infringement;
  - (4) use of items in combination with apparatus or devices not delivered by the Contractor;
  - (5) use of items in a manner for which the same were neither designed nor contemplated; or

- (6) a patent or copyright in which the DEC or any affiliate or subsidiary of the DEC has any direct or indirect interest by license or otherwise.
- (e) The foregoing states the Contractor's entire liability for, or resulting from, patent or copyright infringement or claim thereof.

**IX. Freedom of Information Requests**

In response to a Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) request received by the DEC, the Contractor agrees to provide to the DEC records generated by the Contractor as a result of this contract's scope of work that are responsive to the FOIL request. The contractor may request that the DEC except from disclosure records on the basis that they contain trade secrets or confidential commercial information in accordance with FOIL (Public Officers Law Section 87 and 6 NYCRR Part 616).

**X. Article 15-Requirements**

**PARTICIPATION BY MINORITY GROUP MEMBERS AND WOMEN WITH RESPECT TO STATE CONTRACTS:  
REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES**

**(a) General Provisions**

- (1) The DEC is required to implement the provisions of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR Parts 142-144 ("MWBE Regulations") for all State contracts as defined therein, with a value (1) in excess of \$25,000 for labor, services, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing or (2) in excess of \$100,000 for real property renovations and construction.
- (2) The Contractor to the subject contract (the "Contractor" and the "Contract," respectively) agrees, in addition to any other nondiscrimination provision of the Contract and at no additional cost to the New York State DEC, to fully comply and cooperate with the DEC in the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A. These requirements include equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women ("EEO") and contracting opportunities for certified minority and women-owned business enterprises ("MWBEs"). Contractor's demonstration of "good faith efforts" pursuant to 5 NYCRR §142.8 shall be a part of these requirements. These provisions shall be deemed supplementary to, and not in lieu of, the nondiscrimination provisions required by New York State Executive Law Article 15 (the "Human Rights Law") or other applicable federal, state or local laws.
- (3) Failure to comply with all of the requirements herein may result in a finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of contract, leading to the withholding of funds or such other actions, liquidated damages pursuant to Section VII of this Article or enforcement proceedings as allowed by the Contract.

**(b) Contract Goals**

- (1) For purposes of this procurement, the DEC hereby establishes an overall goal of up to **30%** for Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises ("MWBE") participation, (based on the current availability of qualified MBEs and WBEs).
- (2) For purposes of providing meaningful participation by MWBEs on the Contract and achieving the Contract Goals established in Section II-A hereof, Contractor should reference the directory of New York State Certified MWBEs found at the following internet address; <https://ny.newnycontracts.com>

Additionally, the Contractor is encouraged to contact the Division of Minority and Woman Business Development ((518) 292-5250; (212) 803-2414; or (716) 846-8200) to discuss additional methods of maximizing participation by MWBEs on the Contract.

- (3) Where MWBE goals have been established herein, pursuant to 5 NYCRR §142.8, Contractor must document “good faith efforts” to provide meaningful participation by MWBEs as subcontractors or suppliers in the performance of the Contract. In accordance with Section 316-a of Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR §142.13, the Contractor acknowledges that if Contractor is found to have willfully and intentionally failed to comply with the MWBE participation goals set forth in the Contract, such a finding constitutes a breach of contract and the Contractor shall be liable to the DEC for liquidated or other appropriate damages, as set forth herein.

**(c) MWBE Responsibilities & Requirements**

- (1) Contractors must read, sign, and submit the NYSDEC MWBE Responsibilities & Requirements document. This document describes the MWBE requirements and provides directions for completing the required MWBE Utilization Plan form and subsequent Quarterly Reports.
- (2) By signing and submitting this document, the Contractor acknowledges they understand the assigned MWBE goals, the MWBE Utilization Plan form requirements, the MWBE Quarterly Report requirements, and understand what Good Faith Efforts they must put forth to meet their assigned MWBE goals.

**(d) MWBE Utilization Plan**

- (1) The Contractor represents and warrants that Contractor has submitted an MWBE Utilization Plan either prior to, or at the time of, the execution of the contract.
- (2) Contractor agrees to use such MWBE Utilization Plan for the performance of MWBEs on the Contract pursuant to the prescribed MWBE goals set forth in Section X-B-1 of this Attachment.
- (3) Contractor further agrees that a failure to submit and/or use such MWBE Utilization Plan shall constitute a material breach of the terms of the Contract. Upon the occurrence of such a material breach, DEC shall be entitled to any remedy provided herein, including but not limited to, a finding of Contractor non-responsiveness.

**(e) Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)**

- (1) Contractor agrees to be bound by the provisions of Article 15-A and the MWBE Regulations promulgated by the Division of Minority and Women's Business Development of the State of Economic Development (the “Division”). If any of these terms or provisions conflict with applicable law or regulations, such laws and regulations shall supersede these requirements. Contractor shall comply with the following provisions of Article 15-A:
  - (i) Contractor and Subcontractors shall undertake or continue existing EEO programs to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status. For these purposes, EEO shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation.
  - (ii) The Contractor shall submit an EEO policy statement to the DEC within seventy-two (72) hours after the date of the notice by DEC to award the Contract to the Contractor.



- (iii) If Contractor or Subcontractor does not have an existing EEO policy statement, the DEC may provide the Contractor or Subcontractor a model statement. This statement can be found at the link provided in Section 8.
- (iv) The Contractor's EEO policy statement shall include the following language:
  - a. The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, will undertake or continue existing EEO programs to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its workforce.
  - b. The Contractor shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.
  - c. The Contractor shall request each employer DEC, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employer DEC, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the Contractor's obligations herein.
  - d. The Contractor will include the provisions of Subdivisions (a) through (c) of this Subsection 4 and Paragraph "E" of this Section III, which provides for relevant provisions of the Human Rights Law, in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the subdivisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the Contract.

## (2) Staffing Plan Form

To ensure compliance with this Section, the Contractor shall submit a Staffing Plan to document the composition of the proposed workforce to be utilized in the performance of the Contract by the specified categories listed, including ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories. Contractors shall complete the Staffing Plan as part of the MWBE Utilization Plan and submit at the time of award of the contract.

## (3) Workforce Employment Utilization Report Form ("Workforce Report")

- (i) Once a contract has been awarded and during the term of Contract, Contractor is responsible for updating and providing notice to the DEC of any changes to the previously submitted Staffing Plan. This information is to be submitted on a quarterly basis during the term of the Contract to report the actual workforce utilized in the performance of the Contract by the specified categories listed including ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories. The Workforce Report must be submitted to report this information.
- (ii) Separate forms shall be completed by Contractor and any subcontractor performing work on the Contract.

(iii) In limited instances, Contractor may not be able to separate out the workforce utilized in the performance of the Contract from Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce. When a separation can be made, Contractor shall submit the Workforce Report and indicate that the information provided related to the actual workforce utilized on the Contract. When the workforce to be utilized on the contract cannot be separated out from Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce, Contractor shall submit the Workforce Report and indicate that the information provided is Contractor's total workforce during the subject time frame, not limited to work specifically under the Contract.

(4) Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

**(f) Quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Report**

Contractor is required to submit a Quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Report Form to the DEC by the 10<sup>th</sup> day following each end of quarter over the term of the Contract documenting the progress made towards achievement of the MWBE goals of the Contract.

**(g) Waivers**

(1) For Waiver Requests Contractor should use Waiver Request Form.

(2) If the Contractor, after making good faith efforts, is unable to comply with MWBE goals, the Contractor may submit a Request for Waiver form documenting good faith efforts by the Contractor to meet such goals. If the documentation included with the waiver request is complete, the DEC shall evaluate the request and issue a written notice of acceptance or denial within twenty (20) days of receipt.

(3) If the DEC, upon review of the MWBE Utilization Plan and updated Quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Reports determines that Contractor is failing or refusing to comply with the Contract goals and no waiver has been issued in regards to such non-compliance, the DEC may issue a notice of deficiency to the Contractor. The Contractor must respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt. Such response may include a request for partial or total waiver of MWBE Contract Goals.

**(h) Liquidated Damages - MWBE Participation**

(1) Where DEC determines that Contractor is not in compliance with the requirements of the Contract and Contractor refuses to comply with such requirements, or if Contractor is found to have willfully and intentionally failed to comply with the MWBE participation goals, Contractor shall be obligated to pay to the DEC liquidated damages.

(2) Such liquidated damages shall be calculated as an amount equaling the difference between:

- (i) All sums identified for payment to MWBEs had the Contractor achieved the contractual MWBE goals; and
- (ii) All sums actually paid to MWBEs for work performed or materials supplied under the Contract.

(3) In the event a determination has been made which requires the payment of liquidated damages and such identified sums have not been withheld by the DEC, Contractor shall pay such liquidated damages

to the DEC within sixty (60) days after they are assessed by the DEC unless prior to the expiration of such sixtieth day, the Contractor has filed a complaint with the Director of the Division of Minority and Woman Business Development pursuant to Subdivision 8 of Section 313 of the Executive Law in which event the liquidated damages shall be payable if Director renders a decision in favor of the DEC.

**(i) Forms**

Forms referenced in this Article can be found at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/48854.html>

**XI. Iran Divestment Act Requirements**

By entering into this Agreement, Contractor certifies in accordance with State Finance Law §165-a that it is not on the “Entities Determined to be Non-Responsive Bidders/Offerers pursuant to the New York State Iran Divestment Act of 2012” (“Prohibited Entities List”) posted at:

<http://www.ogs.ny.gov/about/regs/docs/ListofEntities.pdf>

Contractor further certifies that it will not utilize on this Contract any subcontractor that is identified on the Prohibited Entities List. Contractor agrees that should it seek to renew or extend this Contract, it must provide the same certification at the time the Contract is renewed or extended. Contractor also agrees that any proposed Assignee of this Contract will be required to certify that it is not on the Prohibited Entities List before the contract assignment will be approved by the State.

During the term of the Contract, should the state agency receive information that a person (as defined in State Finance Law §165-a) is in violation of the above-referenced certifications, the state agency will review such information and offer the person an opportunity to respond. If the person fails to demonstrate that it has ceased its engagement in the investment activity which is in violation of the Act within 90 days after the determination of such violation, then the state agency shall take such action as may be appropriate and provided for by law, rule, or contract, including, but not limited to, imposing sanctions, seeking compliance, recovering damages, or declaring the Contractor in default.

The state agency reserves the right to reject any bid, request for assignment, renewal or extension for an entity that appears on the Prohibited Entities List prior to the award, assignment, renewal or extension of a contract, and to pursue a responsibility review with respect to any entity that is awarded a contract and appears on the Prohibited Entities list after contract award.

**XII. Americans With Disabilities Act**

In the event the monies defined herein are to be used for the development of facilities, outdoor recreation areas, transportation or written or spoken communication with the public, the Contractor shall comply with all requirements for providing access for individuals with disabilities as established by Article 4A of the New York State Public Buildings Law, Americans with Disabilities Act, and relevant sections of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code. Standards for certain Recreation Facilities are found in the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design while others are found in the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Recreation Areas, <https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards>

**XIII. Public Access to Facilities**

If applicable to the project, the Contractor agrees to allow public access to any facilities developed with monies defined herein on the same basis to all residents of New York State for a period not less than five (5) years after the date of final payment under this Contract or five (5) years after the date that the final payment was due. Failure to comply with the provisions of this clause shall be considered an abandonment of the Project.

**XIV. Project Insurance Considerations**

Refer to project insurance requirements as set forth in A-1 (B) Program Specific Terms and Conditions.

**XV. Amendment/Extensions**

The Contract may be amended and/or extended by mutual written consent of all parties. Amendment forms will be incorporated into this Contract and will not take effect until approved by all applicable State agencies and final approval by the Office of the State Comptroller, if applicable. Contract amendments may be conditioned upon funds being re-appropriated in the State Budget each state fiscal year to the DEC.

**XVI. Environmental Protection Fund Acknowledgement**

If applicable, in recognition of a portion of the DEC funds utilized for any work completed under this Contract, the Contractor agrees to acknowledge in any communication to the public, that such funding was provided from the Environmental Protection Fund as administered by the New York State DEC of Environmental Conservation.

**XVII. Vendor Responsibility**

- A. The Contractor shall at all times during the Contract term remain responsible. The Contractor agrees, if requested by the Commissioner or his or her designee, to present evidence of its continuing legal authority to do business in New York State, integrity, experience, ability, prior performance, and organizational and financial capacity.
- B. The DEC recommends that vendors file a required Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire online via the New York State VendRep System. To enroll in and use the New York State VendRep System, see the VendRep System Instructions available at [http://www.osc.state.ny.us/vendrep/vendor\\_index.htm](http://www.osc.state.ny.us/vendrep/vendor_index.htm) or go directly to the VendRep System online at <https://portal.osc.state.ny.us>.
- C. Vendors must provide their New York State Identification Number when enrolling. To request assignment of a Vendor ID or for VendRep System assistance, contact the Office of the State Comptroller's Help Desk at 866-370-4672 or 518-408-4672 or by email at [ciohelpdesk@osc.state.ny.us](mailto:ciohelpdesk@osc.state.ny.us). Vendors opting to complete and submit a paper questionnaire can obtain the appropriate questionnaire from the VendRep website [www.osc.state.ny.us/vendrep](http://www.osc.state.ny.us/vendrep) or may contact the Department of the Office of the State Comptroller's Help Desk for a copy of the paper form.
- D. Upon written notice to the Contractor, and a reasonable opportunity to be heard with appropriate DEC officials or staff, the Contract may be terminated by the Commissioner or his or her designee at the Contractor's expense where the Contractor is determined by the Commissioner or his or her designee to be non-responsible. In such event, the Commissioner or his or her designee may complete the contractual requirements in any manner he or she may deem advisable and pursue available legal or equitable remedies for breach.

**XVIII. Permits**

- A. If applicable, the Contractor agrees to obtain all required permits, including but not limited to, local, state and federal permits prior to the commencement of any project related work. The Contractor agrees that all work performed in relation to the project by the Contractor or its agents, representatives, or contractors will comply with all relevant federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and standards, zoning and building codes, ordinances, operating certificates for facilities, or licenses for anactivity.
- B. With respect to the project, the contractor certifies that is has complied, and shall continue to comply with

all requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The Contractor agrees to provide all environmental documents as may be required by the DEC. The Contractor has notified, and shall continue to notify, the DEC of all actions proposed for complying with the environmental review requirements imposed by SEQRA.

**XIX. Approvals**

The Contractor agrees that the project will be performed in accordance with the condition of any applicable administrative, judicial or governmental orders or approvals.

**XX. Site Access**

If applicable, the Contractor represents it has or will obtain title to or sufficient interest in the project site, including rights-of-way and necessary easements, before the start of the project to ensure undisturbed use and possession for purposes of construction and completion of the project, as well as operation of the project throughout its useful life.

**XXI. Cost Overruns**

If applicable, any cost overruns will not be paid by the DEC and the DEC is not committed to seeking additional appropriations or re-appropriation of funds and will not be responsible for the maintenance and operation of any facility which may be developed or equipment which may be purchased with the funds herein identified.

**XXII. Construction Plans**

It is the Contractor's responsibility (if applicable to the Project) to have all construction contract plans, specifications and cost estimates certified by a professional engineer licensed to practice in the State of New York. All certified plans and specifications shall become part of this Contract and shall be kept on the project site at all times.

**XXIII. Payment and Reporting**

- A. The Contractor agrees to fully fund the Project and then seek reimbursement from the DEC for eligible project costs. The DEC will not process final payment for this Contract, until the DEC determines that the project was completed satisfactorily and upon receipt of all required final close-out payment documentation in accordance with the direction and requirements described in Attachment D.
- B. The Contractor will be entitled to receive reimbursement payments for work, projects, and/or services rendered as detailed and described in Attachment C and Attachment D of this Contract. Claims for reimbursement must be accompanied by such receipts and documents verifying expenditures as may be required by the DEC and by the Comptroller. Satisfactory documentation shall include, but is not limited to, signed copies of payment vouchers or invoices, canceled checks/or the latest cumulative work-in-place estimate for each construction Contract, and any further documentation as may be required by the DEC and/or the Comptroller. The DEC reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to determine if the reimbursement request and accompanying documentation submitted by the Contractor is in satisfactory form and substance. A final payment determination will be based upon the DEC's review of the Contractor's final voucher submission and reporting as described in Attachment D.

**XXIV. On-Site Inspections**

The State, DEC, or authorized representatives will conduct a review of the Project funded from this Contract, which may include on-site inspections, at a time that is satisfactory to the DEC.

**XXV. Prohibition on Purchase of Tropical Hardwoods**

The Contractor certifies and warrants that all wood products to be used under this contract award will be

in accordance with, but not limited to, the specifications and provisions of Section 165 of the State Finance Law, (Use of Tropical Hardwoods) which prohibits purchase and use of tropical hardwoods, unless specifically exempted, by the State of any governmental agency or political subdivision or public benefit corporation. Qualification for an exemption under this law will be the responsibility of the contractor to establish to meet with the approval of the State. In addition, when any portion of this contract involving the use of woods, whether supply or installation, is to be performed by any subcontractor, the prime Contractor will indicate and certify in the submitted bid proposal that the subcontractor has been informed and is in compliance with specifications and provisions regarding use of tropical hardwoods as detailed in § 165 State Finance Law. Any such use must meet with the approval of the State; otherwise, the bid may not be considered responsive. Under bidder certifications, proof of qualification for exemption will be the responsibility of the Contractor to meet with the approval of the State.

## **B) PROGRAM SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **I. Notices:**

The DEC's authorized representative for the implementation of this Contract and for approval, direction and receipt of all Project reports called for in this Contract is listed below. Whenever it is provided in this Contract that notice must be given or other communications sent to the DEC, the notices or communications must be in writing and delivered or sent to the DEC's authorized representative at:

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Office of Climate Change  
625 Broadway – 9th Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-1030  
518-402-8448

A copy of all legal notices shall be sent to:

General Counsel  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway - 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Albany, New York 12233-1500

The Contractor's authorized representative for the implementation of this Contract is the person authorized in the Resolution of Support for the contract. Notices or communications regarding this Contract should be in writing and delivered or sent to the Contractor's authorized representative at the address identified on the Face Page, with copies sent to the Contractor's contract administrator as identified in the contract application.

Notices delivered or sent shall be deemed for all purposes as notice to all persons who are Parties to this Contract as DEC or Contractor.

### **II. Project Insurance Considerations**

The Contractor agrees to procure and maintain at its own expense and without expense to the DEC until final acceptance by the DEC of the services covered by this Contract, insurance of the kinds and amounts as determined by the DEC and based upon the project work plan. The insurance policies should be provided by insurance companies licensed to do business in the State of New York. Any

delay or time lost as a result of the Contractor not having insurance required by the Contract shall not give rise to a delay claim or any other claim against the DEC.

Upon execution of this Contract, the Contractor shall furnish to the DEC a certificate or certificates, satisfactory to the DEC, showing that it has complied with this Article. The insurance documentation shall provide that:

- A. Liability and protective liability insurance policies shall provide primary and non-contributory coverage to the NYS DEC for any claims arising from the Contractor’s Work under this contract, or as a result of Contractor’s activities.
- B. The State of New York, NYS DEC, its officers, agents and employees, NYS DEC Office of Climate Change, 625 Broadway, 9th Floor, Albany, NY 12233-1030, shall be listed as Certificate Holder on all liability insurance certificate(s), as additional insureds on endorsements(s) and on additional supporting documentation.
- C. The policies shall include a waiver of subrogation endorsement in favor of the DEC as an additional insured. The endorsement shall be on ISO Form Number CG 24 04 or a similar form with same modification to the policy.
- D. Policies shall not be changed or canceled until thirty (30) days prior written notice has been given to the DEC; as evidenced by an endorsement or declarations page.
- E. Insurance documentation shall disclose any deductible, self-insured retention, aggregate limit or any exclusion to the policy that materially changes the coverage required by the Contract.
- F. Endorsements in writing must be added to and made part of the insurance contract for the purpose of changing the original terms to reflect the revisions and additions as described. A copy of these endorsements must be provided to the DEC within a reasonable amount of time.
- G. Applicable insurance policy number(s) reference on the ACORD form must be referenced in the supporting documentation requested by the DEC and supplied by the insurance company (e.g. endorsement page, declarations page, etc.).
- H. This Contract shall be void and of no effect unless the Contractor procures the required insurance policies and maintains them until completion of the work or acceptance by the DEC, whichever event is later.

The kinds and amounts of insurance required are as follows:

- A. Workers’ Compensation coverage must be provided for work to be performed in New York State. The Contractor shall provide and maintain full New York State coverage during the life of this contract for the benefit of such employees as are required to be covered by the New York State Workers’ Compensation Law.

Evidence of Workers’ Compensation and Employers Liability coverage must be provided on one of the following forms specified by the Chairman of the New York State Workers’ Compensation Board:

<b>FORM #</b>	<b>FORM TITLE</b>
C-105.2	Certificate of Workers’ Compensation Insurance
U-26.3	State Insurance Fund Version of the C-105.2 form
SI-12/ GSI-105.2	Certificate of Workers’ Compensation Self-Insurance
CE-200	Certificate of Attestation of Exemption – (no employees)

- B. Disability Benefits coverage must be provided for work to be performed in New York State. The Contractor shall provide and maintain coverage during the life of the contract for the benefit of such employees as are required to be covered by the New York State Disability Benefits Law. Any waiver of this requirement must be approved by the DEC and will only be granted in unique or unusual circumstances.

Evidence of Disability Benefits coverage must be provided on one of the following forms specified by the Chairman of the New York State Workers' Compensation Board:

<b>FORM #</b>	<b>FORM TITLE</b>
DB-120.1	Certificate of Disability Benefit Insurance
DB-155	Certificate of Disability Benefit Self-Insurance
CE-200	Certificate of Attestation of Exemption – (no employees)

An ACORD form is **NOT** an acceptable proof of Workers' Compensation coverage. **ALL OF THE ABOVE REFERENCED FORMS, EXCEPT CE-200, SI-12 & DB-155 MUST NAME** The State of New York and The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Office of Climate Change, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-1030, as the Entity Requesting Proof of Coverage.

Additional information can be obtained at the Worker's Compensation website:  
<http://www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/Employers/Employers.jsp>

Upon review of the scope of work outlined in the Grant Application by the DEC, the following types of liability insurance may be required:

- C. Commercial General Liability Insurance with a limit of not less than \$2,000,000 each occurrence, and \$5,000,000 General aggregate. Such insurance shall cover liability arising from premises operations, independent contractors, products-completed operations, broad form property damage, personal and advertising injury, cross liability assumed in a contract (including tort liability of another assumed in a contract). Limits may be provided through a combination of primary and umbrella/excess liability policies. The CGL aggregate shall be endorsed to apply on a per project basis for construction contracts.
- D. Business Automobile Liability with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 each accident. Such insurance shall cover liability arising out of any registered motor vehicle including owned, leased, hired and non-owned vehicles. If the Contractor does not own, rent or lease any registered vehicles and will not be using any vehicles on State Land proof of Business Automobile Liability Insurance shall not be required for this Contract. The Contractor shall assume full responsibility and liability that owners and operators of any registered vehicles entering State Land to conduct work under this contract carry the same Business Automobile Liability Insurance of the kinds and amounts listed above. NYS DEC reserves the right to request proof of the same.
- E. Environmental Liability with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 providing primary coverage for bodily injury and property damage, including loss of use of damaged property or of property that has not been physically injured. Such policy shall provide coverage for actual, alleged or threatened emission, discharge, dispersal, seepage, release or escape of pollutants, including any loss, cost or expense incurred as a result of any cleanup of pollutants or in the investigation, settlement or defense of any claim, suit, or proceedings against the DEC arising from the Contractor's Work.



- F. Professional Liability Insurance includes coverage for its negligent act, error or omission in rendering or failing to render professional services required by this contract arising out of specifications, installation, modification, abatement, replacement or approval of products, materials or processes containing pollutants, and the failure to advise of or detect the existence or the proportions of pollutants. The Contractor, any subcontractor, or supplier retained by the Contractor to work on the contract shall procure and maintain during, and for a period of three (3) years after completion of this contract, Professional Liability Insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000. The professional liability insurance may be issued on a claims-made policy form, in which case the Contractor shall purchase at its sole expense, extended Discovery Clause coverage of up to three (3) years after work is completed if coverage is cancelled or not renewed.
- G. Marine Protection & Indemnity: Anytime the activity involves work on navigable water or the work is connected to water related activities, the Contractor shall procure Marine Protection & Indemnity and Hull and Machinery coverage, if available. Hull and Machinery coverage shall be provided for the total value of the watercraft or equipment. The Contractor shall obtain Protective and Indemnity Liability insurance for all marine operations under the contract, with a minimum \$2,000,000 limit.

Should the Contractor engage a subcontractor, the Contractor shall impose the insurance requirements of this document on the subcontractor. Contractor shall determine the required insurance types and limits, commensurate with the work of the Subcontractor. The Contractor will maintain the certificate or certificates and endorsements for all subcontractors hired as part of the Contractor's records.

### **III. Local Match Requirements**

For all Climate Smart Communities Projects, including Climate Protection Implementation Projects and Climate Smart Communities Certification Projects, the DEC share will not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the approved project costs, up to the Contract Funding Amount identified on the Face Page, and the Contractor must provide fifty percent (50%) of required eligible share with eligible costs not paid with state grant funds nor federal funds. This percentage will be specified in the Attachment B-1 (Expenditure Budget).

### **IV. Construction**

- A. The Contractor agrees to proceed expeditiously with the Project and shall complete the Project in accordance with the performance measures set forth in Attachment C (Work Plan) or any amendments to such Work Plan which are approved by the DEC in writing.
- B. The Contractor agrees that it shall notify the DEC in writing thirty (30) calendar days prior to the start of construction or, if the start of construction began on or before the contract execution date, upon approval of the Contract the Contractor shall notify the DEC in writing within thirty (30) calendar days as to the status of any construction.
- C. The Contractor agrees that it shall notify the DEC in writing thirty (30) days following initial start-up operation of the Project.
- D. The Contractor agrees that it shall cause the Project to be designed and constructed in accordance with the engineering report or facilities plan, and if applicable to the project, the plans and specifications for the Project shall be stamped with the seal of a licensed professional engineer and shall be signed with the personal signature of such engineer in compliance with Education Law §7209(1) and (2), and which have been delivered to and

approved by the DEC, as well as any amendments thereto.

- E. The Contractor agrees that it shall permit the DEC to participate in all its meetings and conferences with respect to the Project. Upon request from the DEC, the Contractor must submit to the DEC reports, documents, data, contractual documents, administrative records, and other information pertinent to the Project.
- F. The Contractor agrees to permit representatives of the DEC to have unrestricted access to the Project at all reasonable times, and all contracts of the Contractor for construction or operation of all or a portion of the Project shall contain provisions that permit such access to the Project or work relating to the Project, wherever it is in preparation or progress, and that contractors or subcontractors shall provide proper facilities for such access and inspection and shall permit extracts and copies of Project records to be made by the representatives of the DEC.

**V. Engineering Certification/As-built Plans**

Within sixty (60) calendar days after the end of the Contract Term, or upon final completion of the Project, the Contractor agrees that it will deliver the following to the DEC:

- A. A certification stating that all portions of the Project funded by this award have been completed in accordance with this Contract, and constructed per the approved plans and specifications, and any approved amendments thereto.
- B. The certified “as built” plans and specifications for the Project. Any work not in accordance with the approved plans and specifications shall be remedied, unless such non-compliance is agreed to be waived by the DEC.
- C. The Contractor shall retain all as-built plans and specifications for the Project for the useful life of the Project. Within sixty (60) calendar days after the end of the contract term, or upon final completion of the Project, the Contractor agrees that it will deliver the following to the DEC:

**VI. Useful life of Project**

The Contractor agrees that it is fully responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient monitoring, operation and maintenance of the Project satisfactory to the DEC, including, but not limited to, retaining a sufficient number of qualified staff and ensuring performance of required tests and requirements. After completion of the Project, the Contractor shall, for a period of ten (10) years (the useful life of the Project as provided 6 NYCRR section 492-3.3e) operate the Project or otherwise cause the Project to be operated properly in a sound and economical manner and shall maintain, preserve and keep the Project, or cause the Project to be maintained, preserved and kept in good repair, working order and condition and shall make, or cause to be made, all necessary and proper repairs, replacements and renewals from time to time, so that at all times the Project may be operated properly in a manner consistent with the Project performance standards contained in the engineering report or facilities plan for the Project, with this Contract, and with the requirements of any related permit or other governmental approval of the Project.

**VII. Mitigation or Adaptation Monitoring and Reporting**

The grant recipient shall provide estimates of the project’s GHG emissions reductions, risk reduction, or other appropriate metrics, as approved by the program manager, through the end of the contract term, in the quarterly report, and/or final project report as applicable.

## **VIII. Agreements**

### **A. Climate Change Mitigation Easement**

If the grant recipient develops, improves, restores or rehabilitates real property that is not owned by the Contractor as part of the work of this Contract, the Contractor shall obtain a climate change mitigation easement (CCME) from the owner of the real property. CCMEs shall be enforced as conservation easements are enforced in ECL section 49-0305. The grant recipient shall develop, execute, and file the CCME with the County Clerk. The CCME must ensure the following:

- The property shall be accessible to the municipality for any necessary work to achieve the funded purpose throughout the anticipated life of the project.
- The property shall provide the identified public benefit, e.g., publicly accessible clean vehicle charging or fueling, throughout the anticipated life of the project.
- The property shall be used to achieve climate protection and mitigation goals pursuant to ECL Article 54 Title 15 "Climate Smart Community Projects," e.g., reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from municipal and community transportation, throughout the anticipated life of the project.
- The property owner shall provide information and data to the municipality or will provide access to the municipality for collection of data, as specified in the rebate contract.
- The term for the easement shall adequately accommodate the required expected useful life of the project, which is 10 years.

### **B. Partnership Agreement**

For projects involving multiple entities formal, finalized agreements, (such as memoranda of understanding [MOU]) executed by all parties substantiating the collaboration and detailing the responsibilities, role, and match contribution of each party to the agreement must be executed and received by the DEC before the grant contract will be moved to final execution.

## **IX. Funding Acknowledgement**

A. The following statement acknowledging DEC funding for the project must be included in any press releases or other public announcement, including newspaper articles and web posting, as well as all documents, brochures, reports, signage, maps, and exhibits: "This project has been funded in part by The Climate Smart Community Grant Program, Title 15 of the Environmental Protection Fund through the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation." If a ribbon-cutting or other promotional event is planned for the project, the event must be coordinated with the DEC Press Office.

B. Construction projects require the installation of an Environmental Protection Fund funding acknowledgement sign and a 30-day notice of construction commencement. An approved sign design will be provided to the grantee upon full execution of the contract. The signage must remain in place for the life of the project.

## **X. Ownership**

Pursuant to ECL 54-1515, all infrastructure funded through the CSC program must be owned by the grantee and cannot be transferred to another entity for the duration of the infrastructure's useful life. Through a Climate Change Mitigation Easement, the infrastructure may be placed on property

not owned by the municipality.

**XI. Retainage**

Per 6 NYCRR Part 492, Climate Smart Communities Projects, a retainage of 5% will be withheld from each payment request for adaptation and mitigation projects (implementation). The retainage is held in case a project is not completed or all required match is not provided by the grantee. All accumulated retainage will be added to the final payment request upon project completion, match fulfillment, and submission of all deliverables.

**XII. Climate Smart Communities Certification Projects**

- A. For certification actions funded in the Climate Smart Communities Certification Project category, the grant recipient shall include in the work plan all deliverables required for each action as described in the Climate Smart Communities Certification Portal Actions Page at <https://www.ClimateSmart.ny.gov> under subheadings “E. How to Obtain Points for this Action” and “F. What to Submit” and provide these items as deliverables under the MCG.
- B. Work plans for certification actions funded in the climate smart communities Certification Project category must include a submittal of documentation required for certification approval through the Climate Smart Communities Certification Portal at <https://www.ClimateSmart.ny.gov>

**XIII. Contract Dates**

The contract start date for all contracts awarded through this request for application will be March 15, 2021. Only those eligible project related costs incurred between March 15, 2021 and March 14, 2026 will be eligible for reimbursement of grant funding. Payments will not be approved or processed by the DEC until a MCG is fully approved by the DEC and, as applicable, the Attorney General and the State Comptroller, and work has been completed under the state contract. Advance payments are not authorized as part of the Climate Smart Communities Program. One-year extensions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**XIV. Job Creation**

Grantees will report on jobs created as a result of the funded project in the quarterly report.

**XV. Reclaim of Funds**

The DEC reserves the right to reclaim funds paid to a grantee if false statements regarding eligibility of the project or any of its components are discovered after award or payment has been made.

**XVI. State Assistance Payments**

After approval of the Climate Smart Communities Grant award, the commissioner may, in the name of the state, enter into contracts or purchase orders with municipalities to provide state assistance payments toward the cost of cost of climate smart communities projects. Contracts and purchase orders shall include the following provisions:

- a) an estimate of the costs of the project, as determined by the commissioner;
- b) an agreement by the commissioner to make state assistance payments toward the cost of the project by periodically reimbursing the municipality during the progress of project development or following completion of the project as may be agreed upon by the parties, in an amount not to exceed the amounts established elsewhere in this title; and
- c) an agreement by the municipality

- (i) to proceed expeditiously with and complete the project as approved by the commissioner;
- (ii) to undertake and maintain the climate smart community project in accordance with applicable law and rules and regulations;
- (iii) to provide for the payment of the municipality's share of the cost of the project;
- (iv) to assume the full cost of any additional elements or continued operation of the project;
- (v) to repay within one year of notification by the commissioner, any state assistance payments made toward the cost of the project or an equitable portion of such monies declared appropriate by the commissioner, if the municipality fails to complete the project as approved. No repayment, however, shall be required where the commissioner determines that such failure, disposition, or change of use was immediately necessary to protect public health and safety; and
- (vi) to apply for and make reasonable efforts to secure federal assistance for the project.

In connection with each contract, the commissioner shall keep adequate records of the amount of the payment by the state, if any, received by the municipality. Such records shall be retained by the commissioner and shall establish the basis for recalculation of the state payment as required herein.

The commissioner shall impose such contractual requirements and conditions upon any municipality which receives state assistance payments pursuant to this title as may be necessary and appropriate to ensure that a public benefit shall accrue from the use of public funds by such municipality. Such conditions shall include limitations on the right of the municipality to demolish or convey such property; provisions for public access or use where appropriate; a requirement that all plans for restoration, rehabilitation, improvement, demolition or other physical change must be subject to the commissioner's approval; and such other conditions which shall assure the preservation and protection of the project.